

LITERARY NOTES.

A new poem by Mr. Swinburne will appear in this week's issue of *Harper's Weekly*.

Thackeray, Mr. Yates says, was upon occasion heard to speak in the highest terms of Richard Doyle's conception of Colonel Newcome; but he was never satisfied with the artist's sketches of the proud and pretty Ethel. "Doyle cannot draw a woman" he used to say; and those whose taste and imagination Doyle's slim, wooden, expressionless girl has always offended will agree with the author.

"The Story of Chinese Gordon," a book which promises to be one of exciting interest, is to be republished in this country by R. Worthington.

Handsome editions of "Elsie Verner" and "The Guardian Angel" are to be brought out by David Douglass of Edinburgh. *The London World* calls "The Guardian Angel" Dr. Holmes' "masterpiece." Byles Gridley the "most delightful of scholars and kindly of men," and Gifted Hopkins "one of the most quietly humorous creations of American literature."

Wide Awake is never otherwise than entertaining, improving, and useful; but this month it is more than usually attractive. Its lessons of life are all noble ones and free from care. Mrs. Mary H. Catherwood's story of "The Whizier" is one of the cleverest and most pathetic little tales that the magazine has ever published.

The whole of the first edition of Princess Alice's "Memoirs" lately published in Germany was sold in four days. The English edition which her sister Helena (Princess Christian) is engaged with Sir Theodore Martin's help in preparing will be published in the spring. Alice of England was a high-minded and practical woman with a warm heart and much good sense. She was especially wise in the training of her children, as her "Memoirs" testify. "You are indeed right in saying," she once wrote to her mother, "what a mistake parents make in bringing up their daughters with the sole practical object of marrying them off. It seems that this is the leading characteristic of English education among the upper classes. It shall be my endeavor to bring up my girls in such a way that they shall not regard marriage as the one thing needful in their future, and that they may feel themselves equal to employing their lives just as usefully in other directions. Marriage for marriage's sake is surely the greatest error a woman can commit. I never forget anything you tell me; and, as you say, nothing is more disadvantageous to children than to make too much of them. They ought to be unselfish, unsupplied, and easily satisfied. Up to the present this is the case with mine. That they occupy a more salient position in my life than is often the case in families of our rank is simply because I have never been able to employ persons enough of a responsible kind to look after them; upon this account certain things remain undone, unless I do them myself—and the children would suffer were they not done. I certainly do not belong by nature to the class of women who are wives *avant tout*; but circumstances have compelled me to be a mother in the true meaning of the word, and I had to school myself to it. I assure you, many small self-sacrifices proving unavoidable. But child-worship, or having one's children always about one without intermission, is by no means the right thing; and women are intolerable w/o continually talk about their own children. I hope I am free from these faults—at least, I try to be; so I agree with every word you say, and so did Louis when I read him your letter."

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